

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JACK  
SMITH FRIEND OF THE FIRST  
DISTRICT

**HON. DAVID DAVIS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Jack Smith, a friend of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who passed away March 15, 2007.

Jack Smith lived a life of service, entrepreneurship, and was known by all for his compassion to all those around him.

He was married to Jewell "Judy" Garland for 56 years, who preceded him in death in 2003. They had one son, two daughters, and six grand children.

Jack graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1942, with a degree in electrical engineering. He served this great nation for seven years of active duty in the U.S. Navy.

In 1954, Jack Smith started his first "Piggly Wiggly" grocery store, which would grow into a modern-day grocery store empire of 95 "Food City" stores throughout Southwest Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. He served as Chief Executive Officer until passing the torch to his son, Steven C. Smith, in 2001.

He received numerous community involvement awards through his prestigious career. Jack Smith received: 1996 Grocer of the Year, Junior Achievement Tri-Cities TN/VA Business Hall of Fame Laureate in 1999 and "The 2002 Clarence G. Adams "Great America" Award.

The "Food City" Stores engage in community enhancing programs like "Apples for the Students", which provides much needed resources to schools throughout across the First District and beyond.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me this evening in offering our sympathies to the family and friends of Jack Smith. He was a dedicated family man, a true friend of the First District, and entrepreneur.

His service is greatly treasured, and he will be deeply missed.

HONORING GAIL RIDENHOUR

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Gail Ridenhour for her public service to the Germantown community.

Ms. Ridenhour has been very involved in community arts programs. Serving as president of the nonprofit Germantown Fine Arts Foundation for two years and holding other officer positions, she has been indispensable to the efforts of the Foundation to build financial support for arts programs in the local school system.

Ms. Ridenhour has been a leader in her church community as well. As a member of Kingsway Christian Church, she directed, organized, and launched a preschool program. Begun in 1987, the program continues to thrive and grow today.

In addition to her community efforts, Gail Ridenhour has been recognized by the Ger-

mantown Lions Club as their Citizen of the Year for 2006. Her experience and leadership make her an invaluable member of the Germantown community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Gail Ridenhour and congratulating her for this well-deserved award.

TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 4

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 4, which celebrated its 90th anniversary this past Saturday, March 17, 2007.

Troop 4 was formed on March 17, 1917 at the Methodist Episcopal Church, now known as First United Methodist Church, in Ann Arbor, MI. This first group of scouts consisted of nine scouts, three Assistant Scout Masters and was led briefly by the direction of Scoutmaster Don Perkins, who was called in to service with U.S. involvement in WWI shortly after Troop 4's founding, and leadership of the troop then passed to Edward F. Metz. Starting with this small group, Troop 4 would go on to include over 1,700 members in its history, including 111 scouts to date, who have gone on to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. This 6.5 percent rate of Eagle Scout rank achievement is three times the national average.

Troop 4 serves as a wonderful testimonial to the leadership of the Ann Arbor community. This troop has shown tremendous community involvement in the Ann Arbor area and throughout the state of Michigan. These efforts have not been overlooked, as Troop 4 has been awarded several "Take Pride in America" awards; multiple "Keep Michigan Beautiful" awards; and was named one of President George H.W. Bush's "1000 Points of Light" for its record of volunteer community service.

Community service has long played a critical role in Troop 4's activities. As part of its community service, Troop 4 makes a monthly visit to Glacier Hills Nursing Home during the school year and Chelsea United Methodist Nursing Home during the summer. During these visits troop members play bingo and visit with residents. Each year Troop 4 participates in the "Scouting for Food" program that collects food that is then donated to local food banks. Troop 4 is a community troop with its members coming from all over the Ann Arbor area and from all religious and ethnic backgrounds; a troop where new scouts are always welcome.

Troop 4, "The Lighthouse Troop," is known throughout Michigan for its volunteer activities in the restoration of the St. Helena Island Lighthouse. For over 19 years Troop 4 members have traveled each summer to St. Helena Island where they spend a week restoring the lighthouse while camping on the island. In 2006, Grand Rapids television channel 14 highlighted their St. Helena Island service in a documentary entitled "Great Lakes Treasures." In 1991 a documentary titled "Keepers of the Light" displayed the troop's efforts to restore the lighthouse and was shown on PBS stations in Michigan. The History Channel has also broadcast their story nationally. Addition-

ally, "Scouting" and "Boy's Life" magazines among others have also featured the troop's efforts at the lighthouse.

I grew up a Boy Scout, became a Scoutmaster, and watched proudly as both my sons became Scouts. The Boy Scouts are an American institution and one of America's most patriotic organizations; they are a shining example to the world of what is good about America. I am proud to pay tribute to Troop 4 for their service, dedication and commitment to the Ann Arbor community and the state of Michigan.

THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE INVASION OF IRAQ

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on November 7, 2006, the American people sent a clear message to Congress and the President: we must end the war in Iraq. In response, the administration announced it would escalate the conflict. Today we mark the fourth anniversary of President Bush's war of choice, and later this week, the House of Representatives will have to make a choice of its own: either endorse the President's open-ended commitment to the Iraq war or demand accountability and set a timeline for the phased redeployment of our troops. I am hopeful that Congress will pass a supplemental appropriations bill that will chart a new direction toward de-escalation, with a definitive date for disengagement.

The occasion of this anniversary is an appropriate time to examine the impact of these last four years of war. As we begin the fifth year of the war, the price we have paid is high—with more than 3,000 U.S. troops dead, more than 20,000 U.S. troops wounded, and more than \$400 billion of taxpayer dollars appropriated. The Iraq war is already longer than U.S. participation in World War II, World War I, the Korean War, or the Civil War.

What do we have to show for these sacrifices? Contrary to the rosy scenario depicted by the administration, this war has not made us safer; on the contrary, it has made us more vulnerable than ever. A sizeable majority of foreign policy and military experts agree that the world is a more dangerous place for Americans now than it was before we invaded Iraq. The war has become the number one recruiting tool of terrorists, and our continuing occupation of Iraq has provided them with the best training camp they could ever hope to have—a place where they can practice and refine their methods while taking American lives. The war increasingly strains our military—now creating a genuine crisis in U.S. troop readiness and our ability to respond to new threats. Should disaster strike here at home or elsewhere in the world, we will be left virtually defenseless while our troops and equipment are bogged down in a bloody quagmire that threatens to drag on for many more years.

House Democrats are bringing forward a plan that provides for a change in course on Iraq. Our plan will protect our troops on the battlefield and at home, require accountability from the Bush Administration and the Iraqi government, and set a responsible timeline for